

THE PRESIDENCY

THE CINCINNATI CONVENTION.
Arrangements of the Democracy for the Second of June—Presidential Calculations—Speech of the Virginia Delegate, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, May 23, 1854.
The Chances of the Three Talked of Candidates, as Considered in Washington.
 Those who imagine that a selection will not be made at Cincinnati from the three Northern candidates whose names are prominently mentioned—Piers, Buchanan and Douglas—are either not *au fait* with the facts, or

they have not considered the subject carefully. A few acts and a moment's reflection will demonstrate that at the approaching Convention there can be no recurrence of the scenes enacted at Baltimore four years ago.

In the first place we assume it as a position which cannot be controverted, that although Mr. Pierce will obtain a complimentary vote from the South, and Judge Douglas is really the object of a large majority of the Southern

ready the voice of a large majority of the Southern delegates, yet that Mr. Buchanan would also be acceptable to them. The South, no matter what their individual preferences, are so little wedded to them at this time, that they will accept either of the gentlemen named. We hold that whenever a sufficient number of Northern votes can be obtained by any one of these candidates, the South will in a body go for that man. For

instance, Governor Howell Cobb, of Georgia, is strongly for Mr. Buchanan as his first choice, but he does not hesitate to avow that Judge Douglas would be acceptable to his State. Prominent men in Virginia have made the same remark. South Carolina occupies the same ground as between Pierce and Douglas, though Mr. Kett, one of the most chivalrous sons of that chivalrous State, has declared for Mr. Buchanan.

The South, therefore, with its 150 electoral votes, being prepared to support any man the North will present, with sufficient strength, the important inquiry arises as to the relative strength of the three gentlemen named in the North. For if the premises are correctly taken, we main-

tain that the candidate who can present the largest number of votes—if added to the South, sufficient to make up the two-thirds, or 198 electoral votes, must and inevitably will receive the nomination.

Mr. Buchanan's friends claim for him Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan, California and New York. We need not enter into any argument as to New York, because there is no probability that any compromise will be effected between the two sets of delegates. And, even if there were, it is evident upon the best showing, Mr. Bu-

Shaban could not get more than a third of the votes. Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan and California, represent forty-four electoral votes.

Mr. Pierce's friends claim Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, representing thirty-six electoral votes.

Judge Douglas' friends claim Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, Vermont and Wisconsin, all doubt as to the latter State having been removed. These States represent sixty-

Mr. Bright answers for Indiana going for Douglas, and Messrs. Medary, Pugh, &c., give the same guarantee as to Ohio.

If these figures are correctly stated, and their accuracy cannot be controverted over any responsible signature, it follows that it would require but a small portion of Pierce's Northern strength to be thrown for Douglas to insure his nomination; whilst, on the other hand, Mr. Buchanan or Mr. Pierce would require nearly two-thirds of the strength of the Union to insure his nomination.

of Judge Douglas' support to be transferred to them to enable the South to decide the question in their favor.

We do not desire to indicate the result, but simply to state the facts as they now present themselves. Those who calculate upon a general row, and the substitution of a Southern candidate, will be disappointed—that's all.

WASHINGTON, May 19. 1856.

Narrowing Down the Platform.

The Union is hard at work narrowing down the democratic platform. It sticks to the task daily with great pertinacity. The first thing to be done is to horn off "Old Buck," and the next to make the Kansas and Nebraska bill in all its stages a test. It would be a curious proposition for the Union to answer, whether, after succeeding in getting rid of Buchanan because he was not fit

the Nebraska right, it could prevent the same rule from being applied to hundreds of thousands of people who occupied precisely the same predicament. Or does the Union intend forcing its favorite upon the democracy, knowing that he cannot be elected but simply that he may be endorsed by a renomination, a luxury for which the democracy will have to pay the cost in a grand smash up from one end of the Union to the other. We

notice that the Portland *Argus*, a quiet Yankee newspaper, published away off in Maine, pays its respects to the *Union* after this fashion:—

If under the amnesty once proclaimed by the *Union* any Northern democrat ever doubted as to the policy of introducing the Nebraska bill into the last Congress, we are sure there are no members of the party now in its organization who do not cordially endorse its principles.

The repeal of the Nebraska bill is not an issue which the opposition dare present. Its great principle is almost beyond attack; but whatever credit there is in sustaining it is not a monopoly for the personal benefit of any man. We protest against any such narrow and selfish doctrine as that, whether in office or out of office, whether distinguished or obscure, whether living at the South or

That is what we call hard sense; but it will have very little effect upon the Washington Union. That paper seems to know as much of the public opinion of the country as it does of the public opinion in some distant place.

The Boston *Post* joins in the hue and cry, and also wants to narrow down the platform. That is a business at which the Boston *Post* is proficient. The party is kept small in Massachusetts, so that the offices may never get out of a single circle; and if only the *Post* can force

rience upon the track, and get the South to help it in the work, Greene and his coadjutors think they can hold on to the office, because Pennsylvania, the old Conestoga team horse, will do the work, shoulder the responsibility, and elect the nominee, whoever he is.

Now the outsiders laugh at these attempts to capture the Buchanan forces, with the pop-gun and small arms of the administration. There will be rare sport in the Democratic National Convention.

Speech of One of the Virginia Delegation.
SPECIAL REPORT FOR THE NEW YORK HERALD.
RICHMOND, Va., May 17, 1856.
*Richmond Democratic District Convention—Appointment of
Delegates to Cincinnati—Speech of the Hon James A.
Sadden, formerly Member of Congress from this District.*
The Democratic Convention for this (Sixth) district

met here yesterday to appoint two delegates and two alternates to the Cincinnati Convention. The attendance was very large, and so far as I could glean, from the tone of the Convention, the sentiment seemed strongly in favor of Buchanan. The chief managers, however, by adroit planning and preconcerted arrangements, succeeded in securing the election of one delegate in favor

The Convention assembled about 12 o'clock M., and organized by appointing Dr. Abner Crump, of Powhatan, to the chair, and Wm. F. Ritchie and R. W. Hughes, of the *Englemer* and *Examiner*, secretaries.

On the 10th of May, 1840, the Convention assembled at the residence of Mr. J. M. Smith, in the city of New York, with a view to ascertain the number of delegates present from each, having been gone through, a resolution was offered by Mr. ROSS A. FRY, editor of the *Enquirer*, authorizing the Chair to appoint a committee of one from each county to draft resolutions for the consideration of the Convention. It was adopted after considerable debate, some preferring that the delegates from each county should choose from their own ranks, and the said committee

The following is the result of their deliberations, which shows that the whole thing was nothing more than a "tempest in a teapot":—

Resolved, That this Convention re-affirm the principles embodied in the resolutions of the late democratic State Convention.

Resolved, That the principles heretofore acted upon, of requiring a two-third vote to make a nomination by the National Convention be just and wise, and should not be departed from on any pretext whatever.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Convention, that the vote of the State shall be cast at the Cincinnati Convention in accordance with past usage.

The Convention adopted these resolutions.

Mr. R. B. HEATH, a lawyer of this city, offered a resolution to the effect that the Convention offer an award of

The election of delegates was then given into the hands of the members of its choice as between the leading candidates for the Presidency, without giving any instructions to the delegates.

A long and animated debate arose upon this resolution, but it was ultimately lost.

The election of delegates was then given into. Four candidates were in nomination, to wit:—Hon. James A. Sedgwick, of Grotonland; Henry A. Hopkins, of Pawtucket;